

Du Pont heir blasts NAFTA, Terry

by John Sigerson

During the week of Oct. 11, Lewis du Pont Smith, an heir to the du Pont fortune who has been blackballed by his own family for his association with Lyndon LaRouche, swept through southwestern Virginia in an effort to clinch labor support for independent gubernatorial candidate Nancy Spannaus. Joining the United Mine Workers on a picket line and delivering two major addresses to trade unionists in Martinsville and Roanoke, Smith was universally welcomed because of his opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement and to the destruction of the DuPont industrial giant which his ancestors had built up. A flurry of press coverage of his comments effectively—though belatedly—broke through the barrier of silence about the existence of Spannaus's alternative to the anti-labor Democrat Mary Sue Terry and the anti-labor Republican George Allen.

On Oct. 12, Smith spoke for four hours to the Martinsville Nylon Employees Council in order to convey his support for their resistance to NAFTA. Only a month before, DuPont, which owns the nylon plant there, had announced that 675 of 1,300 jobs were to be eliminated between November and July. On top of this, company managers introduced a new dehumanizing speedup scheme called the "high-performance work system."

According to an article in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on the event, "Smith struck a few responsive chords for members of the DuPont Co. union yesterday. . . . Smith, 36 . . . said industry has abandoned the classic American ideal that a nation must invest in its workers for economic progress, and instead business is trying to 'make the fast bucks' with cheap labor and by destroying the individuality of the worker. 'You're just a worker ant, that's what you are,' he said," in describing the new speedup scheme.

According to workers interviewed afterward by the *Martinsville Bulletin*, Smith's message to "stick it to DuPont" and vote for Spannaus garnered a good deal of support. "I'm just sorry that even more of the community could not hear his talk. I'll do what I can to get the word out," said one DuPont employee slated to lose her job. Smith "told it like it was—the way they're doing us and the way they did him. . . . They don't value a working person whatsoever over here," the paper quoted a union representative as saying.

His reception was equally warm in Roanoke—site of the infamous frameup trials of LaRouche associates—where on Oct. 13 Smith addressed an anti-NAFTA rally sponsored by

The LaRouche movement's election record, 1982-92

The maps on pages 32-35 document a decade of election campaigning in the United States by individuals committed to the policy-outlook of Lyndon LaRouche. LaRouche's own Democratic presidential campaigns of 1980, 1984, 1988, and 1992 and his 1990 congressional campaign in Virginia, have been flanked by thousands of candidates for local, state, and national office.

The eight maps document the growth of the LaRouche electoral movement leading up to the "breakout years" of 1985-86, when LaRouche-associated candidates began to win statewide primaries and break into double-digit results in the general elections. The subsequent maps show the damaging impact of the concerted police and propaganda assault launched by the Soviet-backed, U.S. government "Get LaRouche" task force, in an attempt to eliminate LaRouche's policymaking influence. But the most recent maps also show a gradual regaining of strength since LaRouche's jailing in January 1989, indicating that despite the worst efforts of such organized crime-tainted organizations as the Anti-Defamation League, growing numbers of Americans are waking up and realizing that LaRouche was indeed right, while all of his critics and detractors were dead wrong.

The maps are not exhaustive, indicating only the most prominent electoral results. The numbers in thousands or millions indicate total votes cast for all LaRouche candidates in that state. The percentage figures indicate results for one or more candidates. "Cong." indicates U.S. Congress.

the Central Labor Council and the International Union of Electrical Workers. "What we discovered, working with [Rep.] Henry Gonzalez, was that [NAFTA] is not a trade [accord] at all. . . . He discovered there were secret financial protocols in the treaty. . . . Then we found out this was a secret scheme to issue dollar-denominated bonds to Mexico which put the [Michael] Milken junk bond scheme to shame. This is going to loot Mexico and force Mexico to pay back the bonds."

To applause, Smith concluded, "If I'm crazy [referring to his parents' efforts to declare him mentally incompetent], you're crazy. We have to shut this down. . . . I will continue to support your efforts."